

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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/060 W

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R 101036Z NOV 75

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2675

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

USCINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

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FOR POLADS

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT GW

SUBJ: BANGEMANN LOSES SOME, WINS SOME AT CONSTANCE

1. SUMMARY. BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG FDP MEETING NOVEMBER 8 IN CON-  
STANCE REJECTS LAND CHAIRMAN MARTIN BANGEMANN'S POSITION ON  
LEAVING COALITION STATEMENT OPEN UNTIL AFTER APRIL 4 LANDTAG  
ELECTIONS BY 222 TO 185 VOTE. MAJORITY OF 409 DELEGATES SHOW  
PREFERENCE FOR COALITION WITH SPD. APPEALS TO REASON AND  
BANGEMANN PROMISE TO RESPECT AND CARRY OUT DECISION OF MAJOR-  
ITY TAKE STING OUT OF DEFEAT. UNCERTAINTY RE BANGEMANN LEADER-  
SHIP SEEMS OVERCOME AT LEAST FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE. END  
SUMMARY.

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2. AT MEETING NOVEMBER 8 IN CONSTANCE BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG FDP

REJECTED LAND CHAIRMAN MARTIN BANGEMANN'S POSITION ON LEAVING COALITION QUESTION OPEN UNTIL AFTER APRIL 4 LANDTAG ELECTION. VOTE WAS 222 FOR AND 185 AGAINST.

3. APPROVED MOTION STATES BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG FDP INTENTION NEGOTIATE ON COALITION WITH SPD IF CDU LOSES MAJORITY. IF TALKS FAIL, FDP WILL EXAMINE WHETHER ITS AIMS ATTAINABLE WITH CDU, BUT THIS WOULD REQUIRE BASIC REORIENTATION OF CDU. IF REASONABLE AND SUCCESSFUL LIBERAL POLICY NOT POSSIBLE WITH EITHER SPD OR CDU, BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG FDP WILL THEN GO IT ALONE IN OPPOSITION.

4. DEBATE ON MOTION GENERATED HEATED DISCUSSION. LEADING FIGHT AGAINST BANGEMANN VIEW WERE FORMER LAND CHAIRMAN AND PRESENT FOREIGN OFFICE STATE SECRETARY MOERSCH AND ALL BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG BUNDESTAG DEPUTIES. BANGEMANN SUPPORTED BY ONLY ONE OF HIS THREE BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG FDP PARTY DEPUTIES AND LANDTAG VICE PRESIDENT ALBRECHT.

5. IN MIDST VIGOROUS DISCUSSION, PROF. DR. RALF DAHRENDORF, FORMER FDP BUNDESTAG AND FORMER COMMISSIONER OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, ATTENDING AS GUEST, GRANTED PERMISSION TO SPEAK. HE FAVORED MOTION LATER ADOPTED BY MAJORITY, BUT AT SAME TIME CONGRATULATED BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG FDP LAND EXECUTIVE ON HAVING EFFICIENT CHAIRMAN SUCH AS BANGEMANN WHO, SAID DAHRENDORF, SHOULD BY ALL MEANS REMAIN IN OFFICE. STAGE FOR DAHRENDORF ENDORSEMENT PARTLY SET BY PRESS INTERVIEW WITH RESPECTED FDP LANDTAG FACTION CHAIRMAN BRANDENBURG CALLING FOR REASON AND ADVISING PARTY NOT TO OFFER ANY SACRIFICIAL VICTIMS.

6. COMMENT: BANGEMANN FOUGHT HARD AND WITH GOOD HUMOR (IN HALL THAT WAS SCENE OF ELECTION OF POPE MARTIN V IN 1417) TO MAINTAIN HIS PARTY POSITION DESPITE FACING DEFEAT ON COALITION QUESTION. MAJORITY FDP PREFERRED MAINTAINING OR EVEN STRENGTHENING LINKS WITH SPD WHILE MANY OF 185 SUPPORTING BANGEMANN DID SO ONLY IN HOPE OF ATTRACTING CDU VOTERS TO DENY CDU A LAND ELECTION MAJORITY AND TO MAKE SPD/FDP GOVERNMENT POSSIBLE. THUS IT SEEMS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRO AND CON BANGEMANN CAMPS BASED MOSTLY ON TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS. IT ALSO APPARENT THAT MANY DELEGATES HARBOR PERSONAL DISLIKE FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BANGEMANN AND THAT UNDERCURRENT OF VINDICTIVENESS A FACTOR IN HIS RECENT DIFFICULTIES. FOR MOMENT AT LEAST IT APPEARS THAT TOUGH-SKINNED BANGEMANN HAS SURVIVED LATEST CHALLENGES AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE AS LAND CHAIRMAN AT LEAST THROUGH 1976 LANDTAG AND NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND UNTIL NEXT SCHEDULED ELECTION OF BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG FDP LAND CHAIRMAN IN JANUARY 1977. END COMMENT. JENKINS

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## Message Attributes

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